AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1.   (Currently amended) A system for purchase management based on an ~~the~~ administrative standard ~~(AS)~~ of purchasing, said system comprising:

an administrative standard ~~AS~~ specifying unit for specifying, when a purchase request is to be made on a plurality of types of items, the administrative standard of the purchase request according to the expense items representing the category or use of said items defined for each item;

an administrative standard ~~AS~~ specific dividing controller for performing control of dividing said purchase request per administrative standard when said administrative standard ~~AS~~ specifying unit specifies that the administrative standards of the respective items to which the purchase request was made differ;

an administration controller for receiving the purchase request divided per administrative standard and administratively controlling said purchase request;

a divided ordering controller for performing control of dividing and ordering said purchase request per item specific dealer when said administration controller allows the purchase request; and

an order totaling controller for totaling the order data ordered by the divided ordering controller according to the attribute of the expense item of said order.

Claim 2.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, further comprising:

an expense item code displaying controller for selectively displaying, at the time of said purchase request, the expense item code defined in the budget control unit to which the user making the purchase request of items belongs, and the expense item code set forth per

category of said items or per price decision method of said items; and

an expense item specifying unit for inputting, among one or a plurality of expense item codes displayed selectively, the expense item code specified when the user makes the purchase request as the expense item of said item as said administrative standard ~~AS~~ specifying unit.

Claim 3.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein said administrative standard ~~AS~~ specifying unit comprises a user specific administrative standard ~~AS~~ specifying function that<u>,</u> ~~and this function~~ specifies said administrative standard according to the budget control unit to which said user belongs and said expense item.

Claim 4.   (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein said administrative standard ~~AS~~ specifying unit comprises a path specifying function that<u>,</u> ~~and this function~~ specifies as said administrative standard the budget control unit ~~ID~~ <u>identification</u> for identifying one or a plurality of budget controlling divisions, or the budget control unit ~~ID~~ <u>identification</u> for identifying a plurality of budget/approval controlling divisions.

Claim 5.   (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said divided ordering controller comprises an item specific ordering controller for transmitting said order data per said item specific predetermined dealer.

Claim 6.   (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said user specifies a purchasable item group per user making the purchase request of items, and further comprising

an item accessing controller for controlling the display of items per respective user in

accordance with said purchase availability.

Claim 7.   (Original) The system according to claim 6, wherein said item accessing

controller comprises a function of determining the purchase availability per said user based

on merchandise assortment related information for specifying the merchandise assortment set

forth per said respective user or user group.

Claim 8.   (Original) The system according to claim 7, wherein said item accessing

controller comprises a function of determining the purchase availability per said user based

on the predetermined purchasable expense item per said respective user or user group.

Claim 9.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) A system for purchase management based

on the administrative standard (AS) of purchasing, said system comprising:

an administrative standard AS specifying unit for specifying, when a purchase request

is to be made on a plurality of types of items, the administrative standard of the purchase

request according to the expense items representing the category or use of said items defined

for each item each time an item is selected;

an administration controller for receiving a collective purchase of a plurality of types

of items when the administrative standards specified by this administrative standard AS

specifying unit are identical, and administratively controlling said purchase request;

a divided ordering controller for performing control of dividing and ordering said

purchase request per item specific dealer when said administration controller allows the

purchase request; and

an order totaling controller for totaling the order data ordered by the divided ordering

controller according to the attribute of the expense item of said order.

Claim 10.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) The system according to claim 9, wherein

said administrative standard A-S specifying unit comprises a path specifying function for

specifying as said administrative standard the budget control unit ID identification for

specifying one or a plurality of budget controlling divisions, or the budget control unit ID

identification for specifying a plurality of budget/approval controlling divisions.

Claim 11.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) The system according to claim 10, wherein

said administration controller comprises:

a path specific execution function for executing budget processing or budget/approval

processing with said budget control unit identification ID to said plurality of types of items,

collectively, when the hierarchies of the budget control unit identification ID to be specified

by said path specifying function are identical; and

a path specific dividing dependent control function for inducing said user to divide the

purchase request for purchase requests of items in which the hierarchies of said budget

control unit identification ID differ.

Claim 12.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) The system according to claim 10, further

comprising an administrative standard A-S specific purchase request data storing unit for

storing a combination of items of a purchase request belong to a single administrative

standard pursuant to said administration controller as a combination unit for subsequent

purchase request.

Claim 13.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) A method of purchase management based

on the administrative standard using the purchase management system, said purchase

management system comprising:

a merchandise master storing data on items to be the subject of purchase;

a purchase management master storing data on purchase managers of purchasing to

which a the user belongs;

an expense item related master storing expense item codes defined in relation to said

item or administrative standard and selectable upon said purchase request; and

a server for controlling data transmission with said user by employing each of said

masters;

wherein said purchase management method comprises the steps of:

specifying the administrative standard of said purchase request in accordance

with the expense item representing the category or use of said item defined in said purchase

managers, each time an item is selected, when a purchase request for a plurality of types of

items is made;

dividing said purchase request per administrative standard when it is

determined that the administrative standards of the respective items to which said purchase

request was made are different;

receiving the purchase request divided per said administrative standard and

administratively controlling said purchase request;

performing control of dividing and ordering said purchase request per item

specific dealer when the purchase request is allowed; and

totaling the divided and ordered order data according to the attributes of the

expense item of said order.

Claim 14.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) The method according to claim 13, wherein

the step of specifying said administrative standard comprises:

specifying specifies, each time a user makes a purchase request of items, an item

group purchasable by said user: and

performing performs the control of displaying items per user according to the

availability of said purchase.

Claim 15.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) A method of purchase management based

on an the administrative standard using a the purchase management system, said purchase

management system comprising:

a merchandise master storing data on items to be the subject of purchase;

a purchase management master storing data on purchase managers of purchasing to

which a the user belongs;

an expense item related master storing expense item codes defined in relation to said

item or administrative standard and selectable upon said purchase request; and

a server for controlling data transmission with said user by employing each of said

masters;

wherein said purchase management method comprises the steps of:

specifying the administrative standard of said purchase request in accordance

with the expense item representing the category or use of said item defined in said purchase

managers, each time an item is selected, when a purchase request for a plurality of types of

items is made;

receiving a collective purchase request of a plurality of types of items when

the specified management standards are identical and administratively controlling said

purchase request;

performing control of dividing and ordering said purchase request per item

specific dealer when the purchase request is allowed; and

totaling the divided and ordered order data according to the attributes of the

expense item of said order.

Claim 16.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) The method according to claim 15, wherein

~~the step of~~ specifying said administrative standard <u>comprises specifying</u> ~~specifies~~, each time a

user makes a purchase request of items, an item group purchasable by said user and performs

the control of displaying items per user according to the availability of said purchase.

Claim 17.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) A computer program product stored in a

recording medium and for purchase management based on <u>an</u> ~~the~~ administrative standard

using <u>a</u> ~~the~~ purchase management system, said purchase management system comprising:

a merchandise master storing data on items to be the subject of purchase;

a purchase management master storing data on purchase managers of purchasing to

which <u>a</u> ~~the~~ user belongs;

an expense item related master storing expense item codes defined in relation to said item or administrative standard and selectable upon said purchase request; and

a server for controlling data transmission with said user by employing each of said masters;

wherein said program causes said server:

to specify the administrative standard of said purchase request in accordance with the expense item representing the category or use of said item defined in said purchase managers, each time an item is selected, when a purchase request for a plurality of types of items is made;

to divide said purchase request per administrative standard when it is determined that the administrative standards of the respective items to which said purchase request was made are different;

to receive the purchase request divided per said administrative standard and administratively controlling said purchase request;

to perform control of dividing and ordering said purchase request per item specific dealer when the purchase request is allowed; and

to total the divided and ordered order data according to the attributes of the expense item of said order.

Claim 18.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) A purchase management support system, comprising:

a server connected to a plurality of purchase management systems;

a purchase management master storing users and purchase managers per management

unit operating said purchase management system; and

a merchandise master storing item data relating to items such as goods and services,;

wherein said purchase management master stores a list of items ordered by said management unit of each of said purchase managements systems, an expense item code defined per said item or item group, and an expense item code defined per said purchase manager,

wherein said server comprises:

an item data provider for providing, when accessed from a terminal of a user belonging to a purchase manager in a management unit of said respective purchase management systems, item data to said user terminal upon referring to said purchase management master and merchandise master according to the operation of said user;

an administrative standard AS specifying unit for specifying the administrative standard of the purchase request in said management unit based on the expense item code defined in said item each time said user selects an item among the provided item data; and

a purchase data transmitter for transmitting the administrative standard code used for identifying the administrative standard specified by this administrative standard AS specifying unit, together with item data selected by said user, to said purchase management system.

Claim 19.   (Original - Withdrawn) The system according to claim 18, wherein said administrative standard code is a budget limit code for identifying the budget control unit to which said user belongs, and the expense item of the item selected by said user.

Claim 20.   (Original - Withdrawn) The system according to claim 18, wherein said

administrative standard is an approval path code for identifying the management unit to

which said user belongs.

Claim 21.   (Original - Withdrawn) A system according to claim 18, wherein said purchase

management stores an expense item code per price determining method defined in the

respective items of the merchandise master of other sites managed by other servers connected

via said merchandise master or network.

Claim 22.   (Currently amended - Withdrawn) A distribution support system for managing

a the purchase by of customers based on an the administrative standard of said customers, and

supporting the distribution of items to be purchased by said customers, comprising:

      a database for storing the respective masters; and

      a server, connected to a prescribed terminal via a network, and for controlling the data

transmission/reception with said terminal, and for extracting or registering data of said

respective masters according to the request,;

      wherein said database comprises:

          a merchandise assortment (MD) unit master to which a customer's

management unit or purchase unit as the user and a dealer for providing items such as goods

or services to users of said customer are defined as a key, and to which a merchandise

assortment an MD unit for identifying the merchandise assortment of items provided by said

dealer to said purchase units is defined;

          a merchandise assortment an MD master to which items belonging to the

merchandise assortment identified by the merchandise unit of this <u>merchandise assortment</u> MD unit master, attribute information on suppliers and deliverers relating to the distribution of items, and an expense item code in said customers of said items are defined as <u>merchandise assortment</u> MD data:

a budget control unit master to which a budget control unit on the purchase management to which said user belongs, and an expense item code usable in said budget control unit are defined;

an approval path and budget layer master for specifying the purchase administrative standard (AS) of said customer based on said budget control unit and expense item code;

a merchandise master to which attribute information on the item itself such as the specification and supplier of the item per item number of said item is defined; and

a commerce channel management master to which a middle distributor such as a wholesaler according to the relationship of said dealer, supplier and deliverer is defined,;

wherein said server comprises:

<u>a merchandise assortment</u> an MD unit group specifying unit for specifying <u>a</u> merchandise assortment an MD unit group per said purchase unit by referring to said <u>merchandise assortment</u> MD unit master;

a dealer specifying unit for specifying an exclusive dealer among the dealer group dealing with said customers based on said merchandise assortment data per specified plurality of <u>merchandise assortment</u> MD units and the item number selected by the user for ordering;

<u>a merchandise assortment</u> an MD data extractor for extracting an exclusive

merchandise assortment data from said merchandise assortment master per item number

among the respective merchandise assortment data of said specified <u>merchandise assortment</u>

~~MD~~ unit groups;

a purchase manager for specifying the administrative standard of the purchase

of the respective items and performing the control of purchase processing with said purchase

administrative standard based on the expense item code with said extracted merchandise

assortment data or the expense item code defined in said user's budget control unit;

a supplier/deliverer specifying unit for specifying the supplier and deliverer of

said item based on the merchandise assortment data extracted by said <u>merchandise assortment</u>

~~MD~~ data extractor;

a deal supporting unit for specifying the commerce channel from said supplier

to said dealer and supporting the purchase/sales processing in said commerce channel by

referring to said commerce channel management master according to the combination of said

supplier, deliverer and dealer; and

a delivery controller for controlling the delivery of said item from said

deliverer to said user under the name of said dealer.